

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

YASUhide TACHI et al

Examiner: Roberts

Serial No. 024,111

Art Unit: 125

Filed: March 26, 1979

For: NOVEL HYDROCORTISONE
DERIVATIVE

RESPONSE

Honorable Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the office action of June 28, 1979, please
amend the above-captioned application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 2.

REMARKS

The Examiner's primary reference, U.S. 3,152,154 to
Ercoli et al, discloses 17-monoesters of 17 α , 21-dihydroxy
steroids. At column 4, lines 13-52, Ercoli et al teach that
the monoesters of their invention can be modified by substitu-
tion at the 21-position with halogen or by acylation at the
21-position to give a diester. However, the only diesters
specifically disclosed by Ercoli et al are cortisol 17 α -valerate-
21-acetate and prednisolone 17 α -valerate-21-acetate. There
is no teaching or suggestion of the specific diester claimed
here, i.e. hydrocortisone 17-butyrate-21-propionate, or of
any diester of hydrocortisone.

The teachings of Ercoli et al are also deficient in
that they do not recognize the problem to which the invention
claimed here is directed, i.e. the reduction of toxic side

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